

REMARKS

DRAWINGS

In response to the Draftperson's objections to the drawings, proposed drawings are provided herewith.

THE AMENDMENTS

Applicants cancel claims 42, 47, and 48 through 81, all claims pending prior to entry of the present amendment, and add new claims 82 through 115. These new claims add no new subject matter and are fully supported throughout the specification. Support and reasoning for amendments are provided below.

Support for New Claims and Reasons for Amendments

Support for the new claims can be found through the specification, including the drawings and the claims as originally filed. The new claims have been clarified in order to expedite allowance of the present application.

THE CLAIMS COMPLY WITH 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The claims pending prior to the entry of the present amendment comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. To expedite the allowance of the application, Applicants have provided new claims. Applicants do so without prejudice to pursuing the original claims in another application. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn for the reasons set forth below.

The amended claims set forth a cascade genetic circuit of the present invention that is fully described in the specification, including the Examples, such as to convey to one skilled in the relevant arts that the inventors were in possession of the claimed invention at the time of filing. As such, enabling support for the claims can be found throughout the specification as filed. Applicants thus respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

THE CLAIMS PARTICULARLY POINT OUT AND DISTINCTLY CLAIM THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE INVENTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The claims pending prior to the entry of the present amendment comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner alleges that claims 76 and 77 are indefinite. Applicants have cancelled these claims, and have provided new claims 110 to 115 drawn to methods of expressing nucleic acids that are definite under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants thus respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

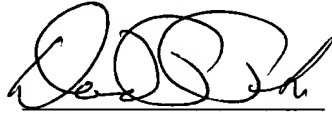
THE CLAIMS ARE NOVEL UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(B)

The claims pending prior to the entry of the present amendment comply with 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The Examiner has rejected claims 48, 52-54, 60, 62-64, 67, 68, 70-73, 76-78, and 81 as allegedly being anticipated by Aubrecht et al. (1996) *Gene* 172: 172: 227-231 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Applicants have cancelled these claims and submitted new claims that are drawn to genetic cascade circuits that comprise a gene encoding a Nah-R transcriptional regulator, a PsaI promoter, a gene encoding the XylS2 transcriptional regulator, and the Pm promoter. These elements are not taught by Aubrecht et al. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are ready for examination and in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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